

Ready to Read



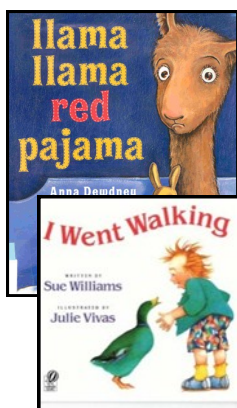
An Early Literacy Newsletter

Renée Edwards, Early Literacy Services, Fairfax County Public Library

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Read More Informational Books to Young Children



Narrative books are made-up stories. These stories can be very simple like **I Went Walking** by Sue Williams and **No, David** by David Shannon, or they can have more complicated storylines with characters, settings, problems and solutions like **Llama Llama Red Pajama** by Anna Dewdney or **Froggy Gets Dressed** by Jonathan London. Narrative

stories appeal to a child's imagination, cover many relatable topics and are interesting to read and easy for children to understand. This makes these types of books very popular, and many child care providers and teachers prefer reading aloud these stories.

Informational books communicate facts about the real world and contain specific, technical vocabulary. Writing in these books differs from narrative stories, and frequently authors share

information using a sequence of events, description, cause and effect or problem and solution. Informational books also contain other features, such as a table of contents, headings, subheading and captions. These books help children find answers about their world, and they prepare them for the type of reading that occurs in upper elementary school and beyond.

There are two types of informational books:

Non-fiction picture book. This traditional non-fiction book uses illustrations or photographs to present information.

Informational storybook. This fictional story shares real facts about the world.

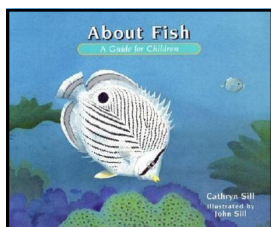
Child care providers, teachers and parents should make efforts to read more informational books to young children.



How the Library Can Help

Fairfax County Public Library has a wonderful selection of informational books.

Non-Fiction Picture Books



About Fish by Cathryn Sill
This book explains the basic characteristics that all fish share and presents information about the wide variety of animals that fall into this category.

Biggest, Strongest, Fastest by Steve Jenkins
In a striking full-color collage, this book portrays animals that stand out in the animal world as the largest, slowest or longest lived.

Giant Pandas by Gail Gibbons
Information about this endearing animal's

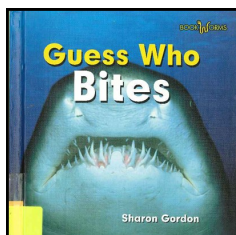
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physical characteristics, senses, diet and lifestyle is presented along with a page of interesting facts.

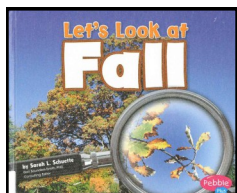
Guess Who... Series by Sharon Gordon
Children read to discover which animal is being described. Each time a page is turned, a new photograph highlights one part of the animal, allowing the reader to use the text and picture clues to figure out what animal it is.

Guess Who Bites
Guess Who Hisses
Guess Who Roars
Guess Who Runs
Guess Who Snaps
Guess Who Spins



It Could Still Be Water by Allan Fowler
This book introduces young readers to the different properties of water.

Let's Look at... Series by Sarah L. Schuette
Simple text and photographs highlight each season while explaining changes in the weather, animal behavior and plant life.



Let's Look at Fall
Let's Look at Spring
Let's Look at Summer
Let's Look at Winter

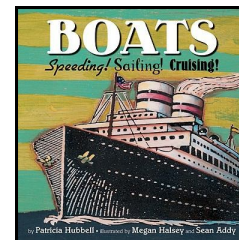
Owls by Gail Gibbons
This book shows the numerous species of owls and discusses their similarities and differences. Learn about their ideal habitats, life styles, birth, development and environmental hazards that are threatening certain species.

The Sun: Our Nearest Star by Franklyn M. Branley
Discover exciting facts about the earth's closet star and try an experiment that shows how sunlight helps plants grow.

Informational Storybooks

Blue Sky by Audrey Wood
Throughout the day and into the night, a boy and his family observe the constantly changing sky.

Boats: Speeding! Sailing! Cruising!
by Patricia Hubbell
Illustrations and rhyming text celebrate different kinds of boats and describe what they can do.



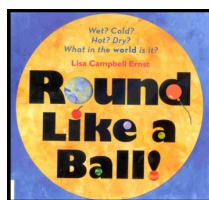
Bugs Galore by Peter Stein
Bugs of all shapes, colors and sizes are presented in illustrations and rhyme.

Green by Laura Vaccaro Seeger
Illustrations and simple, rhyming text explore the many shades of the color green.

Pumpkin Circle by Shmuel Thaler
Rhyming text and photographs follow a pumpkin patch as it grows and changes, from seeds to plants to pumpkins ready to harvest, to jack-o-lanterns and then to seeds again.

Quiet in the Garden by Alikali
Sitting quietly in his garden, a little boy observes the eating habits of birds, bugs, butterflies and other small animals.

Rainforest Romp by Tony Mitton
Rabbit, Mouse and Bird trek through the dense jungle of the South American rainforest and meet a host of amazing animals along the way.



Round Like a Ball by Lisa Campbell Ernst
Everyone tries to guess what is round, warm, cold, strong and fragile until they finally realize it is Earth.